

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1-49. (Canceled)

50. (Currently amended) A method for providing information from hyperlinked pages over a computer network, comprising:

mapping a plurality of target pages, each of the target pages having a network address and comprising at least one hyperlink to a related page;

identifying a set of linked related pages for each of the plurality of target pages;

automatically selecting objects from the target pages and each set of linked related pages, the objects comprising: a block of text from at least one of the target pages or the linked related pages having text and an image file from at least one of the target pages or the linked related pages displaying an image;

generating a reduced-size image from the selected image file; and

generating map information regarding the target pages and each set of linked related pages, the map information comprising the block of text, the reduced-size image, hyperlinks referencing the target pages, and a descriptor of selected pages from each set, for each of the plurality of target pages, configured such that, when the map information is displayed at a remote client as a map of a target page, a user can preview and assess informational content of the target page hyper-linked pages by viewing the map information and can select ones of the hyperlinks from the map of the target page to receive map information for corresponding ones of the related pages.

51. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 50, wherein the generating map information step further comprises:

defining an identifier for each selected object;

defining at least one property for each object in said selected objects, describing said object; and

including the identifier and the property for each selected object in the map information.

52. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 50, further comprising creating a map page comprising a graphical representation of selected map information for at least one of the set of linked related pages.

53. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 52, wherein the creating step further comprises representing the selected map information as a hierarchy of linked pages.

54. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 52, further comprising serving the map page in response to selection of an associated identifier.

55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 50, further comprising storing the map information in a database for later use in the compiling step.

57. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 56, further comprising recalling the map information from the database in response to a request for the map information, wherein the request is generated by user selection of an associated identifier one of the hyperlinks on a map of a target page.

58. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 57, further comprising receiving the request by detecting a mouse-over of the associated identifier one of the hyperlinks.

59. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 56, further comprising deleting the map information from the database after a predetermined period of inactivity.

60. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented system for mapping information on a wide area network, the system comprising a host connected to said network and operably associated with a memory holding executable instructions for:

mapping a plurality of target pages, each of the target pages having a network address and comprising at least one hyperlink to a related page;

identifying a set of linked related pages for each of the plurality of target pages;

automatically selecting objects from the target pages and each set of linked related pages, the objects comprising a block of text from at least one of the target pages or the linked related pages having text and an image file from at least one of the target pages or the linked related pages displaying an image;

generating a reduced-size image from the selected image file; and

generating map information regarding the target pages and each set of linked related pages, the map information comprising the block of text, the reduced-size image, hyperlinks referencing the target pages, and a descriptor of selected pages from each set, for each of the plurality of target pages, configured such that, when the map information is displayed at a remote client as a map of a target page, a user can preview and assess informational content of the target page hyper-linked pages by viewing the map information and can select ones of the hyperlinks from the map of the target page to receive map information for corresponding ones of the related pages.

61. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the instructions further comprise creating a map page comprising a graphical representation of selected map information for at least one of the set of linked related pages.

62. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 61, wherein the creating step of the instructions further comprises representing the selected map information as a hierarchy of linked pages.

63. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 61, wherein the instructions further comprise serving the map page in response to selection of an associated identifier.

64. (Canceled)

65. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the instructions further comprise storing the map information in a database for later use in the compiling step.

66. (Currently amended) A system according to Claim 65, wherein the instructions further comprise recalling the map information from the database in response to a request for the map information, wherein the request is generated by user selection of an associated identifier one of the hyperlinks on a map of a target page.

67. (Currently amended) A system according to Claim 66, wherein the instructions further comprise receiving the request by detecting a mouse-over of the associated identifier one of the hyperlinks.

68. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the instructions further comprise cooperating with an application module operating on a client computer, the application module configured for generating a map page from map information provided by the host.

69. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 68, wherein the application module is a distributable application for delivery to the client computer.

70-71. (Canceled)

72. (New) A method according to Claim 50, further comprising automatically selecting the plurality of target pages for generating map information using predetermined criteria applied to query results returned by an Internet search engine.

73. (New) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the instructions further comprise automatically selecting the plurality of target pages for generating map information using predetermined criteria applied to query results returned by an Internet search engine.